AMENDMENTS

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

- 1-72. (Cancelled).
- 73. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing, in vitro, the cell with a nucleic acid segment encoding a polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:2, wherein a Fas and/or TNFR1 mediated apoptosis pathway is inhibited in the cell.
- 74.-87. (Cancelled).
- 88. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 86, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.
- 89. (Cancelled).
- 90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 73, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.
- 91. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 90, wherein the nucleic acid segment is comprised within a vector.
- 92. (Previously presented) A method of inhibiting apoptosis in a cell comprising providing, in vitro, the cell with a nucleic acid segment comprising at least SEQ ID NO:1, wherein a Fas and/or TNFR1 mediated apoptosis pathway is inhibited in the cell.
- 93.-97 (Cancelled)
- 98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96, wherein the nucleic acid segment is provided to the animal in an amount effective to prevent apoptosis of the cell.

- 99. (Cancelled).
- 100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 92, wherein the nucleic acid segment is operatively linked to a promoter that expresses the nucleic acid in the cell to provide the polypeptide.
- 101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 100, wherein the nucleic acid segment is comprised within a vector.